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8 **IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**
9
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

10 In re:

11 FIRST MAGNUS FINANCIAL
12 CORPORATION,

13 Debtor.

14 _____
15 COUNTRYWIDE WAREHOUSE
16 LENDING,

17 Movant,

18 v.
19 FIRST MAGNUS FINANCIAL
20 CORPORATION,

21 Respondent.

22 In Proceedings Under Chapter 11

23 Case No. 4:07-bk-01578-JMM

24 **COUNTRYWIDE WAREHOUSE
LENDING'S MOTION FOR RELIEF
FROM AUTOMATIC STAY TO
RECOVER VARIOUS MORTGAGE
LOANS AND OTHER COLLATERAL OR,
IN THE ALTERNATIVE, FOR
ADEQUATE PROTECTION AND ORDER
REGARDING USE OF CASH
COLLATERAL**

25 Date of Hearing: Not Yet Set

26 Time of Hearing: Not Yet Set

27 Countrywide Warehouse Lending ("Countrywide"), by and through its
28 undersigned attorneys, hereby moves, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 361, 362 and 363,
Bankruptcy Rule 4001, and Local Bankruptcy Rule 4001-1, for relief from the automatic
stay or, in the alternative, for adequate protection and an order regarding use of cash
collateral.

This request for relief is more fully supported by (i) the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities; (ii) the “Declaration of Blair Kenny” (the “Kenny Declaration”), attached hereto as Exhibit “1”; and (iii) the entire record before the Court.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of August, 2007.

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By: /s/ BAS, #022721

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MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

A. Parties And Jurisdiction.

1. Countrywide is a California corporation, with its principal office located at 8511 Fallbrook Avenue, West Hills, California.

2. First Magnus Financial Corporation (the “Debtor”) is the debtor in the above-referenced Chapter 11 bankruptcy case.

3. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Venue is appropriate in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(G) and (M).

B. Background.

4. The Debtor and Countrywide are parties to that certain Revolving Credit and Security Agreement dated as of June 8, 2007 (the “Agreement”). See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 4. A true and correct copy of the Agreement is attached to the Kenny Declaration as Attachment “A” and incorporated herein by this reference.

5. Pursuant to the Agreement, Countrywide provided the Debtor with a line of credit to be used for originating, acquiring or repurchasing mortgage loans. See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 5.

6. As of August 21, 2007 (the “Petition Date”), the outstanding principal balance under the Agreement was not less than \$28,995,461, plus accrued, unpaid interest, late charges, attorneys’ fees, and other related costs and expenses (collectively, the “Indebtedness”). See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 6.

7. The Indebtedness is secured by first-priority, perfected security interests in and liens upon certain collateral identified in the Agreement (the “Collateral”), which includes, without limitation, the following: (a) certain identified mortgage loans, including the mortgage loans listed on Attachment “B” to the Kenny Declaration (the “Mortgage Loans”), together with the promissory notes (the “Notes”),

1 the mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds or similar instruments (the “Mortgages”),
2 and all other documents and instruments evidencing or securing the Mortgage Loans, (b)
3 all funds of the Debtor deposited or held in the “Over/Under Account” identified in the
4 Agreement (the “Over/Under Account”), (c) all accounts, contract rights, and general
5 intangibles constituting or relating to the Collateral, and (d) all products and proceeds of
6 the Collateral, including all cash and non-cash proceeds received by the Debtor in
7 connection with servicing the Mortgage Loans (such proceeds, the “Servicing
Collateral”). See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 7.

8. As of the Petition Date, the aggregate unpaid principal balance of the
9 Mortgage Loans was approximately \$44,562,407. See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 8.

10. Countrywide perfected its security interest in the Collateral by (a)
11 filing a UCC-1 financing statement covering the Collateral on February 7, 2006, with the
12 Arizona Secretary of State, Document No. 200614042843, (b) taking possession (either
13 directly or through a custodian) of all relevant documents and instruments evidencing or
14 securing the Mortgage Loans, including the original Notes and original assignments of
15 the Mortgages, and (c) taking possession of the Debtor’s funds in the Over/Under
16 Account, which are currently on deposit in an account owned and controlled by
17 Countrywide. See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 10.

18. The Debtor is in default of the Agreement, having failed to comply
19 with the terms of the Agreement or repay the Indebtedness. See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 11.

20. Upon information and belief, the Debtor continues to service the
21 Mortgage Loans, which may include the following: (a) collecting payments of amounts
22 due under the Mortgage Loans, (b) establishing and administering segregated custodial
23 accounts (the “Custodial Accounts”) to hold principal payments, interest payments,
24 insurance proceeds, condemnation proceeds, foreclosure proceeds and other amounts
25 paid in respect of the Mortgage Loans, (c) establish segregated escrow accounts (the
26 “Escrow Accounts”) to hold amounts escrowed on behalf of the borrowers under the
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1 Mortgage Loans, including home insurance premiums, mortgage insurance premiums and
2 property taxes, and (d) implementing collection procedures for defaulted Mortgage
3 Loans, including foreclosure proceedings. See Kenny Declaration, ¶ 12.

4 **II. LEGAL ARGUMENT.**

5 **A. Countrywide Is Entitled To Relief Under Section 362(d)(1).**

6 Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code §362(d)(1), relief from the automatic stay
7 shall be granted “for cause,” which includes, but is not limited to, lack of adequate
8 protection. “Cause” is broadly construed by the bankruptcy courts. In re Texas Optical,
9 Inc., 188 B.R. 552, 557 (Bankr. E.D. Tex. 1995). Courts evaluate whether cause exists to
10 grant stay relief on a case-by-case basis. In re Laguna Associates Ltd. Partnership, 30
11 F.3d 734, 737 (6th Cir. 1994).

12 Without defining the term “adequate protection,” 11 U.S.C. §361 sets forth
13 three non-exclusive means of providing adequate protection:

14 (1) requiring the trustee to make a cash payment or
15 periodic cash payments to such entity, to the extent that the
16 stay under section 362 of this title, use, sale, or lease under
17 section 363 of this title, or any grant of a lien under section
18 364 of this title results in a decrease in the value of such
entity’s interest in such property;

19 (2) providing to such entity an additional or replacement
20 lien to the extent that such stay, use, sale, lease, or grant
21 results in a decrease in the value of such entity’s interest in
such property; or

22 (3) granting such other relief, other than entitling such
23 entity to compensation allowable under section 503(b)(1) of
24 this title as an administrative expense, as will result in the
realization by such entity of the indubitable equivalent of
such entity’s interest in such property.

25 11 U.S.C. §361. The debtor bears the burden of proving that the creditor’s interest in the
26 property is adequately protected. See 11 U.S.C. §362(g)(2).

1 Countrywide's interest in the Collateral is not adequately protected because
2 the value of the Collateral is declining and Countrywide's interest in the Collateral is
3 being impaired by virtue, among other things, the following:

4 *Continuing Decline in Market Value of Mortgage Loans*

5 The Debtor admits that the highly-publicized turmoil in the secondary
6 mortgage loan industry is continuing to cause rapid and severe devaluation of mortgage-
7 backed securities and mortgage loan holdings, creating a downward pressure on the value
8 of mortgage loans. See Declaration Of Gupreet S. Jaggi In Support Of Debtor's Chapter
9 11 Petition And First Day Motions dated August 21, 2007 (the "Jaggi Affidavit"), ¶ 18.
10 The Debtor also admits that the market for mortgage loans has been disrupted "to the
11 point of dysfunction," and sales of mortgage loans are occurring "at prices substantially
12 below the amount outstanding on the mortgage loan note." Id. These market forces
13 continue to erode the value of the Mortgage Loans.

14 *Continuing Decrease in Unpaid Principal Balance of Mortgage Loans*

15 With each passing day, the aggregate unpaid principal balance owing under
16 the Mortgage Loans continues to decrease as a result of (i) regular monthly payments
17 under the Mortgage Loans, (ii) early prepayments of the Mortgage Loans, and (iii)
18 foreclosures of the Mortgage Loans. As a result, the market value of the Mortgage Loans
19 (which is directly tied to the unpaid principal balance owing under the Mortgage Loans)
20 continues to decline.

21 *Inability to Adequately Service Mortgage Loans*

22 The Debtor is obligated to service the Mortgage Loans in a manner that
23 protects Countrywide's security interest in the Collateral. Among other things, the
24 Debtor is obligated to (a) service the Mortgage Loans in compliance with servicing
25 standards prevailing in the industry, Agreement, ¶¶ 8.2(d), 9.6, (b) maintain accurate and
26 complete records of the Mortgage Loans and permit Countrywide to examine such
27 records, Agreement, ¶ 9.3, and (c) deliver to Countrywide any reports related to the

1 Mortgage Loans and any other information in the Debtor's possession as requested by
2 Countrywide, Agreement, ¶ 9.2(f). The value of the Collateral will deteriorate and
3 Countrywide's interest in the Collateral will otherwise be impaired if the Debtor fails to
4 adequately service the Mortgage Loans.

5 The Debtor's failure to maintain adequate servicing staff and resources will
6 result in decreased collections of the Servicing Collateral, the Debtor's failure to properly
7 segregate the Servicing Collateral will impair Countrywide's ability to account for its
8 collateral, and the Debtor's failure to maintain accurate and complete records will prevent
9 the Debtor from providing up-to-date servicing records to prospective purchasers of the
10 Mortgage Loans, thereby decreasing the market value for the Mortgage Loans. It seems
11 impossible that the Debtor can adequately service the Mortgage Loans -- ***the Debtor has***
12 ***laid off almost 98% of its pre-bankruptcy workforce.*** See Jaggi Affidavit, ¶ 24 ("Until
13 August 16, 2007, First Magnus Financial employed approximately 6,000 employees.
14 However, as of the Petition Date, First Magnus Financial has retained only 159
15 employees to assist with the orderly wind-down of the company.").

16 The Debtor does not appear to have any available unencumbered assets or
17 property from which to fund cash payments to Countrywide or provide Countrywide with
18 additional liens. The Debtor has also ceased its business operations. As a result, the
19 Debtor will not generate or have available sufficient post-petition property with which to
20 protect Countrywide from diminution in value of its interest in the Collateral by way of
21 periodic cash payments or granting of additional liens.

22 The Debtor has already informed the Court that it intends either to sell the
23 Mortgage Loans or to turn the Mortgage Loans over to Countrywide. See Jaggi
24 Affidavit, ¶ 21(a). Therefore, granting Countrywide relief from the stay would not
25 frustrate the Debtor's intended purposes for the Collateral, since the Debtor already
26 intends to dispose of the Mortgage Loans. Permitting Countrywide to assume
27 responsibility for the servicing and sale of the Mortgage Loans will relieve the
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1 understaffed Debtor of these burdens, while ensuring that the maximum value for the
2 Mortgage Loans can be realized.

3 Unless Countrywide is granted relief from the automatic stay to proceed to
4 exercise its rights and remedies with respect to the Collateral, it will suffer a diminution
5 in the value of the Collateral. This diminution is ongoing, leaving Countrywide
6 unprotected given the lack of adequate protection from the Debtor. Cause, based on lack
7 of adequate protection, exists to grant Countrywide relief from the stay under 11 U.S.C. §
8 362(d)(1).

9 Therefore, Countrywide requests relief from the automatic stay in order to
10 exercise its rights and remedies with respect to the Collateral, including, without
11 limitation, each of the following:

12 (i) entering the offices of the Debtor and taking possession of the
13 Collateral, including all documents, records, files and other information pertaining
14 to the Collateral;

15 (ii) foreclosing on or otherwise enforcing its security interest in and lien
16 on the Collateral, including (i) conducting public or private sales of the Mortgage
17 Loans, including the securitization or other sale of the Mortgage Loans to
18 investors, and (ii) exercising its setoff rights against the funds in the Over/Under
19 Account;

20 (iii) communicating with and notifying the borrowers under the
21 Mortgage Loans that the Mortgage Loans have been assigned to Countrywide and
22 directing that all payments be made to Countrywide (or its designee);

23 (iv) assuming and performing (or directing its designee to assume and
24 perform) the servicing on the Mortgage Loans; and

25 (v) compelling the Debtor to transfer to Countrywide all cash and
26 property received by the Debtor under or in respect of the Mortgage Loans,
27 including the Custodial Accounts, the Escrow Accounts and any other Servicing
28 Collateral, and to account to Countrywide regarding the sources of all such
29 property.

1 **B. In The Alternative, Countrywide Is Entitled To Adequate Protection.**

2 This Court may refuse to grant Countrywide stay relief only if Countrywide
3 is provided adequate protection that will result in the realization by Countrywide of the
4 indubitable equivalent of Countrywide's interests in the Collateral on the Petition Date.

5 Realization of the indubitable equivalent of Countrywide's interests in the
6 Collateral requires that this Court order that the Debtor preserve and adequately protect
7 Countrywide's interest in the Collateral. The Debtor has already informed this Court that
8 it intends either to sell the Mortgage Loans or to turn the Mortgage Loans over to
9 Countrywide. See Jaggi Affidavit, ¶ 21(a). Pending the completion of any such sale or
10 turnover of the Mortgage Loans, however, the Debtor will continue to use the Collateral
11 by, among other things, servicing the Mortgage Loans. This continued use of the
12 Collateral is causing a decline in the value of Countrywide's interests in the Collateral
13 because (a) the Debtor's failure to adequately service the Mortgage Loans will erode the
14 value of the Mortgage Loans and impair Countrywide's collateral rights in the Mortgage
15 Loans, and (c) the Debtor's continued use of the Servicing Collateral will further
16 dissipate the Collateral.^{1/}

17 The Debtor will not generate or have available sufficient post-petition
18 property with which to protect Countrywide from a diminution in the value of its interest
19 in the Collateral by way of periodic cash payments or granting of additional liens.
20 Therefore, in the alternative, Countrywide requests that the Court provide Countrywide
21 adequate protection in the Collateral by ordering that the Debtor transfer the servicing of
22 the Mortgage Loans to Countrywide as follows:

- 23 (i) ordering the Debtor to cooperate and provide assistance to enable
24 Countrywide to inspect the Collateral and to inspect and make copies of all

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^{1/} To be clear – the Debtor is already prohibited from using any Collateral (including
26 Servicing Collateral) that constitutes “cash collateral” under 11 U.S.C. § 363(a). See 11
27 U.S.C. § 363(c)(2).

1 documents, records, files and other information pertaining to the Collateral and the
2 Debtor's servicing of the Mortgage Loans, at any time and from time to time as
Countrywide shall reasonably elect to insure compliance with this Court's order;

3 (ii) ordering the Debtor take all actions necessary to transfer the
4 servicing of the Mortgage Loans to Countrywide;

5 (iv) ordering the Debtor to take all actions necessary to transfer all cash
6 and property held or received by the Debtor in respect of the Mortgage Loans
(including the Custodial Accounts, the Escrow Accounts and any other Servicing
Collateral) to Countrywide and account to Countrywide as to the sources of such
7 cash and property; and

8 (vi) ordering that, if the Debtor fails to comply with respect to any order
9 of this Court relating to the Collateral, Countrywide shall automatically have all
10 the rights and remedies otherwise granted to it by the Agreement including,
without limitation, relief from the 11 U.S.C. § 362(a) automatic stay, immediate
11 possession of the Collateral, and any such other relief necessary to provide
12 Countrywide the indubitable equivalent of its interests in the Collateral.

13 **C. Countrywide Is Entitled To An Order Regarding Use Of Cash**
Collateral.

14 Pursuant to the Agreement, the Debtor granted Countrywide a first priority
15 security interest in all products and proceeds of the Collateral, including, without
16 limitation, all cash and cash equivalents constituting the Collateral (collectively, the
17 “Cash Collateral”). The Cash Collateral includes, without limitation, each of the
18 following: (a) principal and interest payments paid to the Debtor under the Mortgage
19 Loans; (b) prepayments paid to the Debtor under the Mortgage Loans (c) payments paid
20 to the Debtor by third-party bidders in conjunction with foreclosure sales under the
21 Mortgage Loans, and (d) proceeds of any sales of real estate owned by the Debtor as a
22 result of foreclosure sales or other dispositions under the Mortgage Loans.

23 The Cash Collateral constitutes “cash collateral,” as that term is defined in
24 Section 363(a). 11 U.S.C. § 363(c)(2) prohibits the Debtor from using the Cash
25 Collateral unless Countrywide consents to the use of the Cash Collateral or the Court
26 authorizes its use, after notice and a hearing, and a specific finding that Countrywide’s
27 interests in the Cash Collateral are adequately protected. Countrywide has objected to the
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1 Debtor's use of the Cash Collateral pursuant to its Notice of: (1) Security Interest in Cash
2 Collateral, (2) Demand for Segregation, Sequestration and Accounting of Cash
3 Collateral, and (3) Objection to Debtor's Use, Sale or Lease of Cash Collateral (Docket
4 No. 43).

5 The Debtor does not appear to have any available unencumbered assets or
6 property from which to fund cash payments to Countrywide or provide Countrywide with
7 additional liens. The Debtor has also ceased its business operations. As a result, the
8 Debtor will not generate or have available sufficient post-petition property with which to
9 protect Countrywide from diminution in value of its interest in the Cash Collateral by
10 way of periodic cash payments or granting of additional liens.

11 Countrywide requests that the Court order and direct the Debtor to:

12 (i) segregate and maintain all Cash Collateral now or hereafter in the
13 Debtor's possession, custody or control in a separate account for the benefit of
14 Countrywide (the "Cash Collateral Account"), which shall not be commingled
15 with any other funds derived from any source whatsoever that do not constitute
16 Cash Collateral;

17 (ii) provide Countrywide with a weekly accounting of all amounts
18 deposited into and held in the Cash Collateral Account; and

19 (iii) disburse all funds held in the Cash Collateral Account to
20 Countrywide not less than weekly.

21 **III. CONCLUSION.**

22 WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, Countrywide respectfully requests that
23 the Court enter an Order:

- 24 A. Granting this Motion; and
25 B. Granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.
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1 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of August, 2007.

2 BRYAN CAVE LLP

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